

improvements in care and research for patients with blood disorders like DBA, while also leading to advanced research initiatives that are yielding clues to other, more widespread disease populations.

The 2011 Outstanding Service Award will be presented to Mrs. Arturi during the 53rd American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting in San Diego, California, on December 11, 2011.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Mrs. Marie Clarke Arturi and her family for their outstanding public service to rare disease communities and those living with Diamond Blackfan Anemia in honor of Daniella Maria Arturi.

RECOGNIZING MR. DENNIS ROBERTS, RECIPIENT OF THE DYNACORP INTERNATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S PURPLE STAR AWARD

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2011*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Dennis Roberts for being the recipient of the DynCorp International Chairman's Purple Star Award. This award recognizes Mr. Roberts' courage and sacrifice while working as a security coordinator in Afghanistan.

The Chairman's Purple Star Award is the highest honor given by DynCorp to its employees. It recognizes individuals who have been killed or wounded while supporting a customer's mission for their exceptional sacrifice.

In February of 2010, Mr. Roberts was supporting our Armed Forces at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan. During a sudden rocket attack that was launched upon the installation, Mr. Roberts was struck and severely injured by the motor that separated from the rocket. It penetrated a nearby vehicle before striking Mr. Roberts, who suffered severe injuries to his chest, hand, and shoulder.

In the time since the attack, Mr. Roberts has overcome great hardship, undergoing numerous surgeries and completing extensive physical rehabilitation to recover from his injuries. He is also working towards his bachelor's degree and upon his expected graduation next year, hopes to use his education and experience to continue working to support America's security.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Dennis Roberts for receiving this award and I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives please join me in congratulating him.

COMMEMORATING WORLD WIDE SIRES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DEVIN NUNES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2011*

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to World Wide Sires as they celebrate their 40th anniversary.

World Wide Sires was established in 1971 in Hanford, California, a small town in the San

Joaquin Valley. From his home farm, founder Bill Clark recognized the benefits of genetic potential and its role in producing the most efficient and highest quality livestock. Today, World Wide Sires is the world's leading cattle genetics marketing organization with active markets in over 70 countries.

In 2001, World Wide Sires Inc. was purchased by Accelerated Genetics and Select Sires and became World Wide Sires Ltd. Still operating as a stand-alone company, World Wide Sires has continued to use the San Joaquin Valley as the hub for their growing international sales, maintaining headquarters in Visalia, California. During its 40 years, World Wide Sires has sold products in 108 countries, all from only a few miles away from founder Bill Clark's original home farm.

A leading exporter of US bovine genetic material, World Wide Sires remains committed to providing dairy and beef producers throughout the world with the highest quality genetics and services available. I applaud World Wide Sires for their hard work and dedication to the agricultural community, and I congratulate them on their 40th anniversary.

**BURMA**

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2011*

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the international community's recent trust in assurances that Burma is opening up to the world and becoming a true democracy in which the rights of all people in Burma are protected. There have been some positive steps taken recently by the dictators, however, until we see permanency in these changes, we would all do well to remain deeply cautious.

One important issue the Secretary of State addressed during her visit this week to Burma regarded the attacks by the dictatorship's troops against the ethnic minorities. It is vital, and I cannot emphasize this enough, that leaders of the various ethnic groups be included in any and all discussions, dialogue and decision about the future of Burma. I would call your attention to the call by the U.N. for a tri-partite dialogue—all three parties, the dictatorship, the democracy groups and the ethnic groups, must be included fully in all negotiations and agreements in order for true change to come to Burma. This is even more important when, during this visit and the recent ASEAN meetings, the dictatorship was violently attacking one or more ethnic groups.

A few years ago, I submitted a Statement for this Record describing the Advanced Light Helicopters that India sold to Burma. The dictators of Burma used these, plus other military hardware sold to them by a variety of nations against the ethnic minority civilian populations. The brutality of Burma's Generals against the ethnic minorities has not stopped, even during this time when they are allegedly making democratic reforms. Therefore, we as a democratic, free nation must be extremely careful of what the Generals are really up to—they haven't proven themselves trustworthy in the past.

I would like to submit for the RECORD, a short letter to the Secretary from Ms. Zipporah

Sein, Secretary General of the Karen National Union.

I urge the Secretary of State, when engaging in further dialogues with the Burmese government, to proceed with the utmost caution.

OFFICE OF THE SUPREME HEAD-  
QUARTERS, KAREN NATIONAL  
UNION, KAWTHOOLEI,

*November 25, 2011.*

Hon. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,  
*Secretary of State,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SECRETARY: Thank you for your constant support and encouragement for the people of Burma.

The leaders of the Karen National Union (KNU), welcome your engagement with the government of Burma and your leadership alongside Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to bring to the forefront the need to see an end to the ongoing conflicts in the ethnic states and an end to the oppression of all people inside Burma.

We the KNU would like to ask you to take the lead to recognize the desires of all the ethnic groups, both armed and unarmed, to be treated as equals in the effort to establish a genuine federal union: A union that recognizes the rule of law and recognizes the equality of all.

We invite you to meet with ethnic leaders from all of the ethnic organizations both armed and unarmed as we move forward to work toward a peaceful and stable nation where our citizens can truly be free from governmental oppression. We need your help and your engagement with all of us.

Sincerely,  
ZIPPORAH SEIN,  
*General Secretary, Karen National Union.*

CONGRATULATING THE ROCK BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL BRUINS BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2011*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Rock Bridge High School Bruins Boys Cross Country team for winning the Class 4 Missouri State Championship.

The young men and their coaches should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the regular season and bringing home the state title to their school and community. At the State Cross Country Championships in Jefferson City, the Bruins won the state title with a score of 61, 28 points better than second place. They have made history for the school, as it is the Rock Bridge boys' first state title.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Rock Bridge Bruins for a job well done!

HONORING LARENCE C. "LARRY" MAXWELL

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2011*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Veterans of Foreign Wars Chowchilla Post 9896 Life Member Larence C. "Larry"